

CHINA

No. 36650

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1957.

Price 20 Cents

THE WEATHER: Moderate N.E. winds, becoming S.E. during the afternoon. Cloudy, becoming overcast again this evening with drizzle patches developing. A little warmer.

RELAX IN **DAKS**
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COMMENT OF THE DAY

The High Cost Of Travel

YESTERDAY most shipping lines with services to the Far East announced second big increases in passenger fares in three months. In the case of one first class fare from Hongkong to the United Kingdom, this means a total increase of about £75 on the basic rate charged prior to the imposition of the 20 per cent surcharge in November. There can be little complaint with the surcharge because it was designed to cover extra costs incurred in rerouting ships around the Cape because of the Canal blockade.

But the latest increase, decided by member lines of the Far East Passenger Conference, is announced without any explanation. Perhaps there are good reasons for it, but at the time of writing they were not known to local shipping agents and travel service officials contacted yesterday by this newspaper. It is to be hoped some explanation is forthcoming and one that is more detailed than the bald statement that it is because of higher operating or fuel costs.

THE first question that must be asked is: will the original fares charged prior to the Suez surcharge be restored once the Canal is cleared and opened to normal traffic? The announcement by the Far Eastern Passenger Conference suggests that the new "gross basis" rates apply only to voyages via the Cape.

Many firms with employees on home contracts will want to know the answer before making future travel arrangements. Even now because of the surcharge, at least one big British firm and Government are sending many employees home by air—as a travel official put it yesterday: "Government has become airborne since the Suez crisis."

This trend may be expected to continue unless early assurances are given. A comparison of air and ship fares shows that it will be possible to travel home by tourist class plane for about £70 less than a single first class fare by ship to the United Kingdom (and up to £100 on a return ticket)—to say nothing of the saving in bar bills and travelling time by air.

PROTAGONISTS of sea travel may argue that class for class sea fares are still lower than air fares and that only last November air fares between here and the United Kingdom and the Continent were increased (e.g. HK-UK 1st class £278-£305) but the very small difference that is likely when the new ship fares come into operation in March will probably be more than counteracted by the fact that "class" in air travel is a much smaller consideration than on ships—this on top of other advantages of rapid transportation for a man on long leave.

Not all shipping lines servicing Hongkong are members of the Far East Passenger Conference, but their fares may be increased to some extent. Others which are members will not charge the maximum rate of increase which appears to be about 19 per cent on top of the Suez surcharge, making 39 per cent in all. But the effect of any increase can only be detrimental—and to some extent permanently so—to passenger shipping lines servicing the Far East. It is not enough, however, to deplore the rising costs of sea travel or to point out cheaper alternatives. Some assurance is required that once the Suez Canal is opened to normal traffic ship fares will return to their former levels. An early announcement by major shipping lines or the Far East Passenger Conference would be most welcome.

Conditions For Settlement Of Mid-East Dispute

ISRAEL'S 5-POINT PROPOSALS

Guarantees For Freedom Of Shipping

Jerusalem, Jan. 23. Mr David Ben Gurion, Israeli Prime Minister, today offered to withdraw his country's forces from the coast of the Gulf of Aqaba if freedom was guaranteed to her shipping.

Israel would also withdraw her troops from the Gaza strip, but would continue to police it, and intended to develop it economically for the benefit of the population, he told the Knesseth (Parliament).

"The restoration of Egyptian influence—directly, by the return of the Egyptian army, or indirectly upon the entry of a United Nations force—is likely to block and eliminate all constructive prospects, and the strip would revert to lawlessness, to its own misfortune and that of adjacent areas," he said.

Mr Ben Gurion appealed to the United Nations to demilitarise the Sinai Desert, which he said Israel had almost entirely evacuated. It should not again be allowed to become a "springboard for aggression," he said.

HOSTILE REACTIONS EXPECTED

New York, Jan. 23. Mr. Ben Gurion's declaration that Israel will not withdraw her forces from the Gulf of Aqaba until international agreements assure freedom for Israeli shipping there is certain to raise a storm when the United Nations General Assembly resumes debate, probably next Monday.

The Asian-African group will probably demand economic sanctions against Israel because of her failure to withdraw completely from Egyptian territory as requested in the Assembly resolution, approved overwhelmingly last Saturday.

Egypt and her Arab neighbours may also request the Assembly to "condemn" Israel for non-compliance.

The Western nations all voted for last Saturday's resolution because they believed that Israel must withdraw "completely," but many expressed the view that the government of Israel had a right to expect that neither the Gaza strip nor the approaches to the Gulf of Aqaba should be used for anti-Israeli action.

Some delegations, among them, it is believed, the United States, would like to see Mr Dag Hammarskjöld deploy the United Nations emergency force in the Gaza strip and the Aqaba approaches. They believe that he has the authority without further sanction from the Assembly. Mr Hammarskjöld, on the other hand, is reported to feel that he does not have the necessary authority.—Reuter.

"Get Out" Request To UNEF Possible

Cairo, Jan. 23. Egypt may ask the United Nations Emergency Force to leave its territory in case the United Nations fails to take sanctions against Israel for failure to withdraw from Sinai and Gaza, political observers said today.

Highly placed sources said that President Gamal Abdel Nasser would dispatch last-minute instructions tonight to Foreign Minister Mahmoud Fawzi, outlining Egypt's plans. Fawzi, who is heading Egypt's United Nations delegation, is scheduled to ask the General Assembly tomorrow to impose sanctions on Israel for failure to pull out in five days in conformity with an Assembly resolution, voted last Saturday.

Egypt's agreement with the UNEF on November 12 stipulated that the UNEF should withdraw immediately when requested to do so by the Egyptian authorities, observers said.—France-Press.

VITAL 8 WEEKS AHEAD

Cairo, Jan. 23. An authoritative Egyptian editor and personal friend of President Nasser of Egypt said today that the next eight weeks would be "the gravest period in the history of the Middle East."

Writing in the weekly newspaper Akher Sa'a, Hassanin Helal said much hinged on Israel's compliance with UN resolutions on withdrawal from Egyptian territory.

"If Israel were to resort to procrastination or attempts to derive gains from her aggression, then events would take a different turn."

CANAL REOPENING

He added that if Israel withdrew "there would be every hope for re-opening the Suez Canal for normal shipping by next March."

He emphasised, however, that there would have to be "some sort of clear agreement on the conditions of resumption."

Helal said Egypt would insist on all British and French ships paying their Canal tolls.

BUDAPEST POLICE SWOOP ON GROUP

London, Jan. 23. Budapest police have arrested a group of counter-revolutionaries, and have found two loaded pistols in a place where the group met, the Hungarian news agency MTI said tonight.

The news agency said the chief of the group was Mr. Gabor Foly, a journalist. It said that in 1946 he was sentenced to 10 years' penal servitude for counter-revolutionary activities, and for taking part in a plot against the State, released provisionally from prison in 1953, he took part in the fighting in October and November last year, the agency said.

USE CHILDREN

It added that after the uprising had been put down Mr Foly "pursued his counter-revolutionary activities," publishing leaflets, some of which were found where he was arrested.

MTI said that Mr Sándor Vasvari, another member of the group was released from prison during the revolution, and with other group members took part in the fighting.

It added: "Foly, whose group has been organising children against the people's rule, ordered two schoolboys, aged 10 and 12, to supply him with information on the Hungarian military units."

It added: "The boys agreed to bring him the information and look for arms."

"The boys have been returned to the care of their parents, and members of the group will be tried by the special tribunal."—Reuter.

Hunt For Killer "Cat"

Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 23. A British planter and rangers were tonight stalking a man-eating tiger through jungle after it made three attacks on a rubber estate near Bentong.

A 12-year-old Chinese girl, Lam Fong, mauled yesterday by the tiger, died in hospital at Bentong today.

The previous day the tiger entered the home of the planter, Mr D. I. Davidson, formerly of Woodford, Northamptonshire, but was beaten off by a champion English-bred pointer dog, sending her puppy.

The tiger struck again this afternoon on the estate and ravaged a calf, near the spot where the girl was attacked.

Following an urgent appeal by Mr Davidson, who manages the estate, the Pahang game warden Mr A. K. Robinson made a 150 mile dash from Kuantan to join the hunt.—China Mail Special.

Liberation March

Karachi, Jan. 23. The West Pakistan Christian Zamindars Labour League today announced plans for a peaceful campaign for the "liberation" of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, beginning on March 15 with a demonstration march across the ceasefire line into Indian-held Kashmir.

The League President, Mr Zofar Iqbal Zafar, emphasised that it would be a Satyagrahi (peaceful and non-violent) campaign.—Reuter.

More Questions On HK Housing

London, Jan. 23. Mr John Profumo, Under-Secretary for the Colonies, told the House of Commons today that no proposals had been made to acquire more land on the Chinese mainland to relieve the housing shortage in Hongkong.

He was replying to a question by Mr John Rankin, Labour member, who also said the housing

situation in Hongkong was such that it was impossible to solve it within the existing boundaries and new territory must be found.

Mr Profumo said housing was required in places of employment, adding: "Your suggestion would not relieve the shortage of money and staff, which are the serious obstacles in overcoming shortage of houses."—Reuter.

RUSSIA'S WAR WARNING TO AMERICA'S ALLIES

Moscow warned the United States' allies today that they might become the first victims of any atomic war if they permitted the stationing of US atom-armed units on their soil.

The official Soviet news agency Tass specifically singled out for warning Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Turkey, Iran and Japan.

Tass said the United States was courting "an outbreak of atomic war" if it went through with reported plans to set up such atom bases in Western Europe, the Middle East or the Far East.

The chief victims of atomic counter-blows would be the nations which allowed such US units to be stationed on their territory, the news agency said.

US "Design"

It said the US was planning to set up the atomic bases abroad in "a step aimed at removing from the USA the main retaliatory blow in the event of the unleashing of atomic war."

It warned the United States that any such action would lead to "most serious consequences."

The Tass statement said: "The question concerns the intention of the US government to make use of territories for foreign States where US military bases are situated for the preparation of atomic war."

"The US government already finds it impossible to conceal this intention," asserted Tass. It said the American government was trying to deceive the American public and other nations by representing the step as "a measure against possible aggression."

Increases Danger

"There is no doubt that this step of the US government intensifies the threat of an outbreak of atomic war," Tass said.

"One cannot fail to see also that it is a step aimed at removing from the USA the main retaliatory blow in the event of the unleashing of atomic war by US reactionary circles."

It said the US was "thus placing under the first threat of a retaliatory atomic blow the peoples of Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Turkey, Iran, Japan and other countries on the territories of which it is planned to station special US atomic detachments."

"Leading circles of the USSR are confident the peoples of all countries which are being drawn by the USA into their plans for preparation of atomic

Poisoned Liquor

GOVT TO TAKE ACTION

Government is to introduce legislation to prevent the use of methyl alcohol—a very dangerous poison—in the preparation of liquor intended for human consumption.

A Bill to this effect, which amends the provisions of the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance, will be introduced at the next meeting of Legislative Council, the Public Relations Officer announced this morning.

Government's intention to bring the distribution and sale of methyl alcohol under control was foreshadowed at the Legislative Council meeting last December 5 by the Hon. Financial Secretary, Mr A. G. Clarke, when he introduced a Bill amending the Ordinance, the effect of which was to put on liquor dealers the onus of showing that they carried no stock of adulterated liquor.

Mr Clarke then said that it was proposed to bring the distribution and sale of methyl alcohol itself under the strictest controls.

The new amending legislation, said the Public Relations Officer, has been designed to have this effect.

NO SURVIVORS

Perpignan, Jan. 23. Nine bodies were tonight removed from the wreckage of the French military plane which crashed last night in the Pyrenees, just inside the Spanish border, near Carpal, while flying from Algiers to Toulouse.

The victims, whose names were not disclosed, were believed to be mainly officers.

There were no survivors.—France-Press.

TAYLOR, TODD TO WED

New York, Jan. 23. Actress Elizabeth Taylor and producer Mike Todd said today they will be married.

The date, they said, depends upon a conference with their lawyers to determine exactly when her divorce decree from actor Michael Wilding becomes final.

The couple were interviewed at International airport before

Poisoners Not To Hang Decides Commons

London, Jan. 23. The House of Commons tonight rejected a proposal that murderers who poison their victims should hang.

The House was discussing a government bill to keep the death penalty only for murders which most clearly threaten law and order.

Other murderers, including poisoners, would face a sentence of life imprisonment.

The Commons has already passed a private members bill to abolish the death penalty for murder, but it was thrown out by the House of Lords. The government's bill is a compromise.

Mr R. A. Butler, the Home Secretary, said the Government recognised that the poisoner was pre-eminently the type of murderer for whom capital punishment should be retained.

But it was convinced that while the retention of the death penalty was essential to maintain the peace, its scope should be restricted to those types of murder which struck most clearly at law and order.

Mr Butler said only five poisoners had been executed in the last 30 years.

The discussion took place on an amendment by Sir Lionel Heald that poison murderers should hang.

346 TO TWO

Mr Heald sought to have the amendment but Labour members insisted on a vote. The amendment was then defeated by 346 votes to two.

Another amendment providing that the death penalty for murder committed while resisting arrest or assisting an escape from custody should only be given when the killing was intentional, was defeated by 144 votes to 80. A Government majority of 64.—China Mail Special.

Plane Disaster

Managua, Jan. 23. Sixteen persons were feared killed when a Nicaraguan commercial plane crashed on the slopes of the Concepcion volcano in Ometepe Island, shortly after noon today.—United Press.

Defeats Drunkometer With 20 Tots Of Whisky

Miami, Jan. 23. William C. Rose, a 235-pound bachelor, belted down 20 shots of whisky in Court today, trying to prove that drunkometers are all wet, and walked out boasting that he was "as sober as the judge."

The Judge, Francis Sobieski, took the case under advisement and said he hoped to rule on Friday on whether Rose was actually too drunk to drive when arrested last

week on the basis of a 240 drunkometer reading.

Rose, six-foot, retired real estate man, knocked off a pint and a quarter of 80-proof whisky in his marathon effort to reach a 240 reading on the drunkometer, but could only get to 122 after the 20 shots.

He said when he was arrested that he had "only seven or eight drinks."

Court experts gave the ex-Navy officer a final series of

tests to determine whether he was in full possession of his faculties after he quaffed the whisky.

He was judged "normal" in walking a straight line, standing on one leg and touching his knees. But the experts said defendant showed a "marked deficiency" in such reaction tests as braking (a car) time, night driving and glare activity.

He was 30 per cent better than

his "sober" test, however, in depth perception.

In the midst of Rose's efforts to run the drunkometer reading to 240, a dishevelled little man was brought into the courtroom by officers to be given a drunkometer test before charging him. With one blast of his breath, he shot the indicator to 300.

"Wow," cried Rose, "so sure and clean out that thing. I don't want that to influence my reading!"—United Press.

THE NEW 1957 MORRIS Oxford

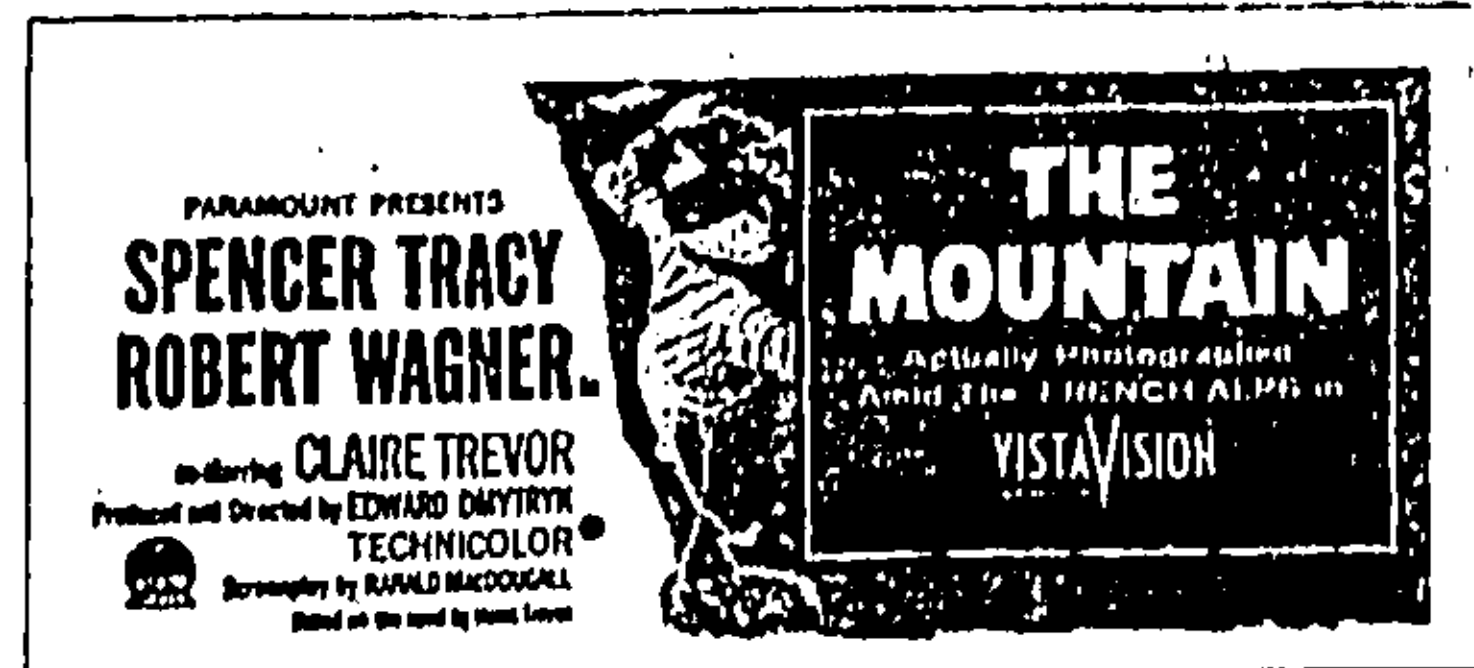
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 An excellent film, and one to be seen whether you can climb
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At 2:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

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 Original English Version

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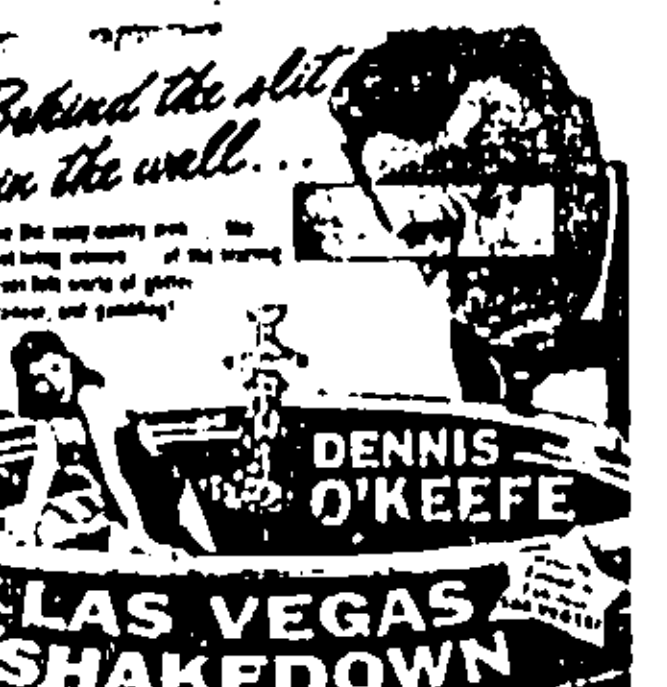
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 "DON'T KNOCK THE ROCK"

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2 SHOWS IN-1

"ROCK-N-ROLL"

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Featuring
 "BARI GEE" that sweetie pie of song
 "JULIE GARDNER" with a new style of melodies
 Along with those four rhythm boys
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 Doing their latest Hit Recordings and Feature Acts
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REDS Spread Over 5 Years

London, Jan. 23.
 Britain will provide up to £20 million during the five years until 1961 to help the Federation of Malaya meet the Communist emergency, Secretary for Scotland John MacLay told the House of Commons today.

In a written answer for the Colonial Secretary, MacLay said nine million sterling would be an outright grant in three equal instalments from 1957 through 1959. A review in 1960 would determine how much of the balance would be needed in 1960-1961.

MacLay said a cash grant of 7.6 million sterling would be provided in the five-year period towards the cost of expanding Malaya's armed forces together with grants-in-kind of military equipment valued at about 5.5 million sterling.

He said a cash grant for development purposes would also be granted equivalent to the unspent balance of the Federation's Colonial Development Fund at the date of independence.

Chinese Voters

A Labour Member, Mr Stan Avery, asked what provision was made for the 2,250,000 Chinese in the Federation of Malaya to vote at elections and what plans were being considered for their future enfranchisement.

MacLay, a former Minister of State for the Colonies, told him that any Chinese over 21 years of age who were citizens of the Federation and who had lived in a constituency for the previous six months may register there as voters.

Future qualifications for the franchise would be studied by the Constitutional Commission for the Federation whose report was awaited. — United Press & Reuters.

EMPIRE

COMMENCING SATURDAY JAN. 26, 1957

THE BIG BEAT!

BILL HALEY AND HIS COMETS

Don't Knock The Rock

ALAN DALE ALAN FREED

ALAN FREED

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N-POWER RESEARCH FOR SHIPS

London, Jan. 23.
 A considerable effort is now being made to develop nuclear power for use in British surface vessels and submarines, Mr Reginald Maundling, Paymaster General, told the House of Commons today.

It was being undertaken by the Atomic Energy Authority, the Admiralty and the British Shipbuilding Research Association, he added in reply to a question.

Admiralty scientists and naval officers had been working with the staff at Harwell, the research station, for some years on the study of various types of nuclear power plant best suited to marine application, the types of fuel required, health and safety factors and operating costs.

The British Shipbuilding Research Association had had a team for some time engaged in studying the development of nuclear propulsion of merchant vessels.

The small research reactor Lido at Harwell was being used for studying shielding problems, which were among the major design problems in marine propulsion. — China Mail Special.



Yemen Alleges Attacks In Own Country

London, Jan. 23.

British charges that trouble on the Yemeni-Aden frontier has been due to raids and attacks by Yemeni tribesmen on British Aden Protectorate territory were vigorously denied in a statement by the Yemeni legation today.

The statement, the latest exchange in the diplomatic war of charges and countercharges between Britain and the Red Sea Arab State, which has accompanied the recent frontier tension, criticised a reply to a question given yesterday in the House of Commons by Mr John MacLay, former Colonial Office Minister of State.

Mr MacLay, now newly appointed Minister for Scottish Affairs, said in a written reply to a parliamentary question "these incidents have been taken the form of raids and attacks by Yemeni tribesmen supported in some cases by Yemeni troops."

Against Yemen

The Yemeni Legation today denying this charge said "on the contrary the attacks were made by the British forces and aircraft against Yemeni towns and villages."

"Bombs and rockets were used."

The statement continued: "The fact is that there is a revolt in the areas occupied by Britain. The free people in the occupied areas were also the subject of heavy raids by the Royal Air Force resulting in destruction of their homes."

The Yemeni statement claimed that "responsible British quarters" had admitted the existence of a revolt in the Aden Protectorate. It said that these quarters claim "that the rebels are armed and armed by the Yemeni authorities only to justify the continuation of British military action against the Yemen and against the rebels who are seeking their freedom." — Reuters.

Police Out Of Work

Paris, Jan. 23.
 Nearly 5,000 former members of the Polish security police are looking for other jobs, following the abolition of the force, the Polish press agency reported today.

The jobless former policemen are taking courses to fit them for other work, and many of them have expressed the desire to enter industry, the agency said. — France-Press.

NYE GOING ON TOUR

London, Jan. 23.
 British left-wing Labour Party leader, Mr Aneurin Bevan, outspoken critic of President Eisenhower's Middle East policy, has accepted a fortnight's lecturing assignment in the United States next month. It was reported from the party headquarters tonight.

Bevan will be the fourth Labour party leader to visit the United States in recent weeks.

Former Prime Minister, Lord Attlee is still there, the present party leader, Hugh Gaitskill, returned to Britain last week and Herbert Morrison, former deputy leader of the opposition, has just left for the United States. — France-Press.

ATTEMPT TO SEAT KOREA & VIETNAM

United Nations, Jan. 23.

The United States and 12 other countries called on the United Nations today to remedy the "glaring injustice" that keeps the Republic of Korea and Vietnam out of the UN.

Introducing two resolutions in the General Assembly's Special Political Committee, calling for admission of the two States, the US delegate, Mr Edward Greenbaum, said that only the Soviet Union's "abuse of the veto" kept South Korea and South Vietnam from entering the UN.

He emphasised the "special and unique place that the Republic of Korea has in relation to the United Nations" and the fact that a majority of UN members have already recognised both States, while only the Communist bloc recognises the Northern Communist regime in each country.

As the debate began, Laos announced that it had withdrawn its sponsorship of the resolution in favour of Vietnam's admission. No reason was given for the action.

Mr Greenbaum said that in the new and more hopeful situation created by the admission of new members to the United Nations, "the exclusion of these two fully-qualified applicants from our midst has become an even more glaring injustice."

Restraints imposed last year when the UN was deadlocked on the question of admitting Japan were "no longer pertinent," he said, and "the time has again come for the General Assembly to reaffirm its findings and request the Security Council to act." — United Press.

NATO Council Invited To Germany

Paris, Jan. 23.
 The North Atlantic Council today accepted a West German invitation to hold its next ministerial meeting in Bonn. The meeting, to be attended by the Foreign Ministers of the 15 NATO member nations, will take place from May 2 to 4.

The decision to hold the Ministers' meeting in the capital of another member state, instead of at the permanent headquarters in Paris, followed a recommendation of the three "wise-men," who studied last year the co-operation of member states in non-military matters.

The meeting will be NATO's first ever held at Ministers' level away from Paris since NATO set up its headquarters here in 1952. Previously, other ministerial NATO meetings had been held in Washington, New York, London, Brussels, Ottawa, Rome and Lisbon. — France-Press.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

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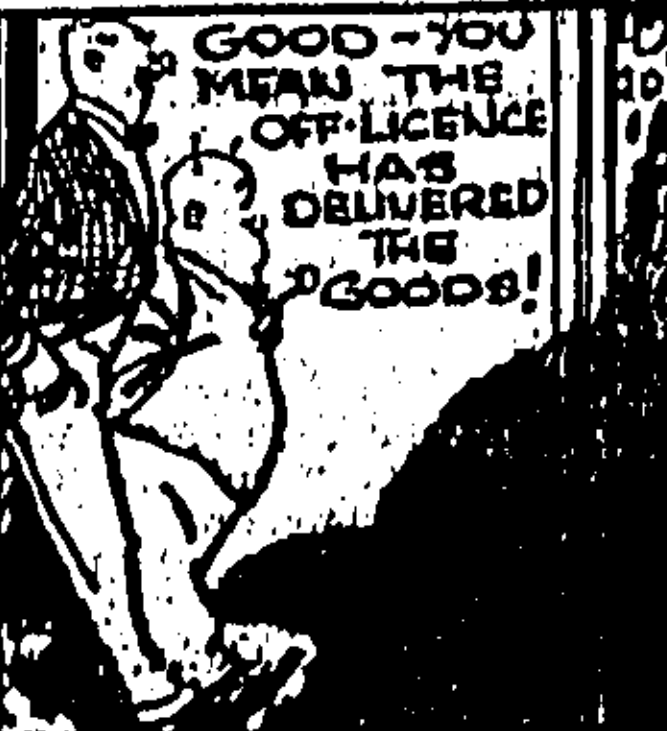
For the convenience of the public and the troupe of the San Francisco Ballet, we will be open for late supper.

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POP



Trouble brewing



Tentative Support For Eisenhower's Plan

COMMON MARKET
AND EURATOM

French Accord Pleases Delegates

Brussels, Jan. 23. Delegates from six European countries, working under pressure here to prepare treaties on Euratom and the common market for early signing, were today spurred on by the French National Assembly's vote in favour of the market.

Conference sources said delegates agreed that the French vote gave them confidence. Today the sources said, the delegates and experts who have been working on the two treaties here since last May had nearly completed preparation of the Euratom treaty.

OUTSTANDING POINTS

The Foreign Ministers of the European countries—France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg—will have the job when they meet here on Saturday for a three-day conference, of settling a number of outstanding points which the delegates and experts are not empowered to solve. These points include the functioning of Euratom institutions, the Euratom budget and supplies of fissile materials to the member states.

Tomorrow, the conference which is presided over by M. Paul Henri Spaak, Belgian Foreign Minister, will resume discussions of a plan for the integration of French and Belgian African territories in the common market.—Reuter.

SCANDINAVIAN PLAN

Copenhagen, Jan. 23. Mr. H. C. Hansen, the Danish Prime Minister, gave details tonight of a plan for a common Scandinavian market covering the 20,000,000 people of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark.

The plan will be put before the four governments this summer. Mr. Hansen told the Copenhagen Commercial Club that the common market will cover three-quarters of all trade between the four countries. They will introduce common customs duties for outside countries and abolish internal tariffs and quota restrictions.—China Mail Special.

PRESIDENT WILL ACCEPT SOME AMENDMENTS

Washington, Jan. 23.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee gave tentative support today to President Eisenhower's request for authority to use US armed forces if necessary to block Red penetration of the Middle East.

It took the action by starting formal consideration of the resolution requested by the President. A spokesman for the Committee chairman, Mr. Thomas Gordon, said it was hoped that action could be completed tomorrow.

The Congressional development came as Mr. Eisenhower spoke out against Democratic proposals for separating the military and economic features of his Middle East plan. He said such action "would destroy what we are trying to do."

Question Left Open

At a news conference, the President also left open the possibility that any US troops sent into the area to resist Communist aggression might be armed with "smaller" atomic weapons. But he refused to hazard a "guess" in advance on the final decision.

The House Committee decided informally to consider a joint resolution embodying Mr. Eisenhower's Middle East proposals rather than a concurrent resolution. A concurrent resolution does not carry the force of law. Representative Clement Zablocki said only a technically prevented him from offering a concurrent resolution. He said he still planned to do so but conceded that chances of its approval were not bright.

Strong Sentiment

Across the Capitol, Senator Styles Bridges, Chairman of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, said there was strong sentiment in that chamber for a concurrent resolution.

Senator Bridges, who attended a White House meeting of Republican legislative leaders, also said there was strong sentiment for separating the President's economic and military proposals. But he predicted that most Republican Senators would support Mr. Eisenhower's "one package" plan.

Mr. Eisenhower said at his news conference that it was "vital" to keep his requested troops authority and the econo-

mic aid in one legislative package.

"You cannot do the things that need to be done merely with arms," he said. "You have got to have an understanding of human wants (and help people satisfy) those wants if we are going to wage peace successfully."

The House Committee tentatively agreed with this declaration by the President.

"The peace of the world and the security of the United States are endangered as long as international communism and the nations it controls seek by direct or indirect means, use of economic pressure, internal subversion, or other means, to attempt to bring under their domination peoples now free and independent."

Amendments

The Committee adopted one minor amendment to the Eisenhower resolution to permit additional economic aid only to Middle East countries "desiring such aid."

The Committee rejected several other minor amendments offered by Committee members. The votes were not made public.

The Eisenhower Administration, it was learned, has agreed to accept two other amendments not yet taken up by the Committee. One would limit the amount of extra economic aid to any one Middle East country to \$30 million. The second would set a June 30 deadline on allocating any of the extra economic aid. Republican leaders predicted after the White House conference that both House and Senate would approve the President's programme.—United Press.

MALENKOV GETS IN THE ACT

Paris, Jan. 23.

Georgi Malenkov, Soviet Vice-Premier in charge of electric power, said today the USSR could "compel the imperialists" to respect Soviet force "when necessary in the interests of peace and security." Tass reported here tonight.

Malenkov, in a speech at Chkolov, devoted mainly to foreign affairs, said the Soviet Union had been "compelled to put strong pressure" on the "war criminals who had embarked upon a military adventure in Egypt."

Referring to the part played by Soviet troops during the Hungarian revolt, Malenkov said the intervention had been "necessary to put an end to the counter-revolutionary adventure of international imperialism."

This was Malenkov's first foreign policy speech since his visit to Britain last spring.—France-Press.



Here are some fresh, pretty faces to lift your spirits, these gloomy days! Picture left shows Princess Margarethe of Sweden, who has been spending Christmas with her family in Stockholm, arriving at London Airport to continue her schooling in Britain. Picture right shows three girls from outside Britain aboard the train returning them to school at Malvern, Worcestershire. They are, from left: Antoinette Basmaile, 17, of Lucerne, Switzerland; Karen Goelmann, 15, of Oslo; and Marina Pinto, 16, of Tangier.—Express Photo.

THAW STARTS US RIVERS RUSHING TO FLOOD LEVEL

Chicago, Jan. 23.

A mid-winter thaw sent rivers rising to flood stage in the east today and a 16½-inch fall of rain caused an estimated \$15 million damage in Florida.

Diamond Necklace Price Halved

New York, Jan. 23.

A 213-carat diamond necklace that originally cost \$750,000 was sold at auction today for \$385,000.

Two perfectly matched strands of Oriental pearls originally valued at \$1,250,000 were knocked down at the same sale for only \$161,000.

The diamond necklace and the pearls were obtained 40 years ago by the late Mrs. Mae Rovinsky, a four-times-married New York millionairess.

Her estate insisted on an opening bid of at least \$350,000 for the diamond necklace which was purchased for Mrs. Rovinsky by her second husband.

Jewelry experts attending the auction at Parke-Bernet Galleries blamed the drop in the price of Mrs. Rovinsky's pearls.

They said the relatively low bid for the diamond necklace, reputedly the most important item of jewelry ever auctioned in the United States, was due to the inflated values placed on jewels in the "millionaires' market" of two generations ago. The necklace consisted of 40 round diamonds and 40 fancy diamonds with a pendant featuring a 46.50-carat pear-shaped diamond and a cushion-shaped diamond of 21 carats. The total weight of all diamonds in the necklace was 213.10 carats.

Altogether, 107 pieces of jewelry were sold at the auction. They brought a total of \$1,122,806.—United Press.

Princess And Commoners Go Back To School

London, Jan. 23. The Defence Ministry said today that it would be "glad" to consider any fresh evidence gathered by Labour MP Edith Summerskill with regard to victims in the Suez conflict last November.

Dr Summerskill said on her return from Egypt earlier today that 3,000 Egyptian civilians had been killed in French-earlier, tornadoes associated with the southern and eastern storm systems killed at least 12 persons in Oklahoma and Louisiana.

Eight persons were killed in a twister at Gans in Oklahoma and four persons died in the farming communities of Bellevue and Princeton, Louisiana.

Agricultural officials at Pompano Beach, Florida, said some 25,000 acres of crops in the area were under water following 24 hours of steady rain. They said 65 to 85 per cent of the vegetables in the fields were destroyed and damage may reach \$15 million.

Three More Feet

In the northeast, the swift-running French Creek reached the 57-foot flood stage at Meadville, Pennsylvania, today and observers expected it to climb about three more feet by noon.

However, the authorities said no serious flooding was expected. They said a 60-foot stage would flood streets and basements in about a five-block-square area.

A threat of floods along the Allegheny River eased when an ice gorge at the junction of the Allegheny and Oil Creek broke last night. The threat also was lessened by the arrival of colder weather in the area.—United Press.

SAUDI CALLS ON HOOVER

Washington, Jan. 23.

Resigning American Under-Secretary of State, today had an interview with Hazzam Pasha, who represents the interests of Saudi Arabia in the dispute with Britain over the Buraimi Oasis.

Hazzam Pasha told reporters that he had paid a courtesy call on Hoover, whose resignation will become effective within a few weeks.—France-Press.

COMMUNISTS STILL DOMINATE POLISH ASSEMBLY

By SIDNEY TAYLOR

Warsaw, Jan. 23.

The Communist United Workers Party will not dominate the new Polish Parliament as they did the old, but they will still outnumber the second strongest party, the Peasants, by slightly over two to one.

The old Sejm (Parliament) had 425 members: 278 Communists, 90 Peasants, 25 Democrats and 37 non-party members, including five Catholics.

There will be 450 seats in the new Assembly. It is unofficially calculated that there will be 230 Communists, 110 Peasants, 30 Democrats and 80 non-party members, including 12 Catholics. (The election in one constituency is to be held again.)

Wider Powers

The Peasants and Democrats, in forming the National Unity Front, with the Communists, stipulated they must have stronger representation in the new Sejm, which is to have much wider powers and is to become the supreme organ of the State.

They drew up a joint list of candidates, in which the members of mass social organizations and other non-party members had a share. The list in each constituency was so cast as to give the second and third parties a greater number of deputies under "democratisation" than ever before.

There was a great chance for some of the 114 non-party candidates fighting the contest, including 22 Catholics, to get into Parliament.

This and other factors made this election very attractive to the Poles. Statisticians among the Communists thought things were being made far too attractive—and dangerous.

Countrywide

In each constituency the voters were offered a choice of eight or nine candidates for, say, six seats as against only one candidate for each seat in 1952.

By crossing out the names of all the Communist candidates, as they were urged to do in a campaign that was countryside, all kinds of situation, awkward for the party in power, could have been created in the Sejm.

Mr. Wladyslaw Gomulka, the Communist leader, appealed to the nation to drop their cards untouched into the ballot boxes—which meant a vote for the top names, according to the number of seats available. An overwhelming number of people carried out this injunction and the poll was over 94 per cent.

The official communique on the final election results issued last night, made no attempt to analyse the political composition of the new Sejm.

Top Figures

The three parties made no announcement today. Tonight, all over Poland, Catholics were quietly celebrating the success of 12 of their 22 candidates.

All but one of the elected, they pointed out, scored top figures in their respective constituencies—and the exception was on the list headed by Mr. Gomulka himself.—China Mail Special.

CHOU EN-LAI VISITING KANDAHAR

Peshawar, Jan. 23.

Chinese Premier, Chou En-lai, and his party arrived in Kandahar, an historical town in Afghanistan, after spending five days in Kabul. He was received at the airport by Abdul Ghani, the Governor of Kandahar.

Chou will spend two days in Kandahar, visiting a number of development projects and places of interest. Chou lunched with the Governor today.

In his farewell speech at Kabul airport this morning, Chou thanked his hosts for their hospitality and the chance to become acquainted with the various aspects of life of "our friendly neighbour, Afghanistan."

Chou said he was convinced that direct contacts of leaders of various countries was conducive to the promotion of understanding and friendship, and consequently to the enhancement of international peace and co-operation. He stressed the desire of China and Afghanistan to further develop cultural ties and strengthen co-operation.—France-Press.



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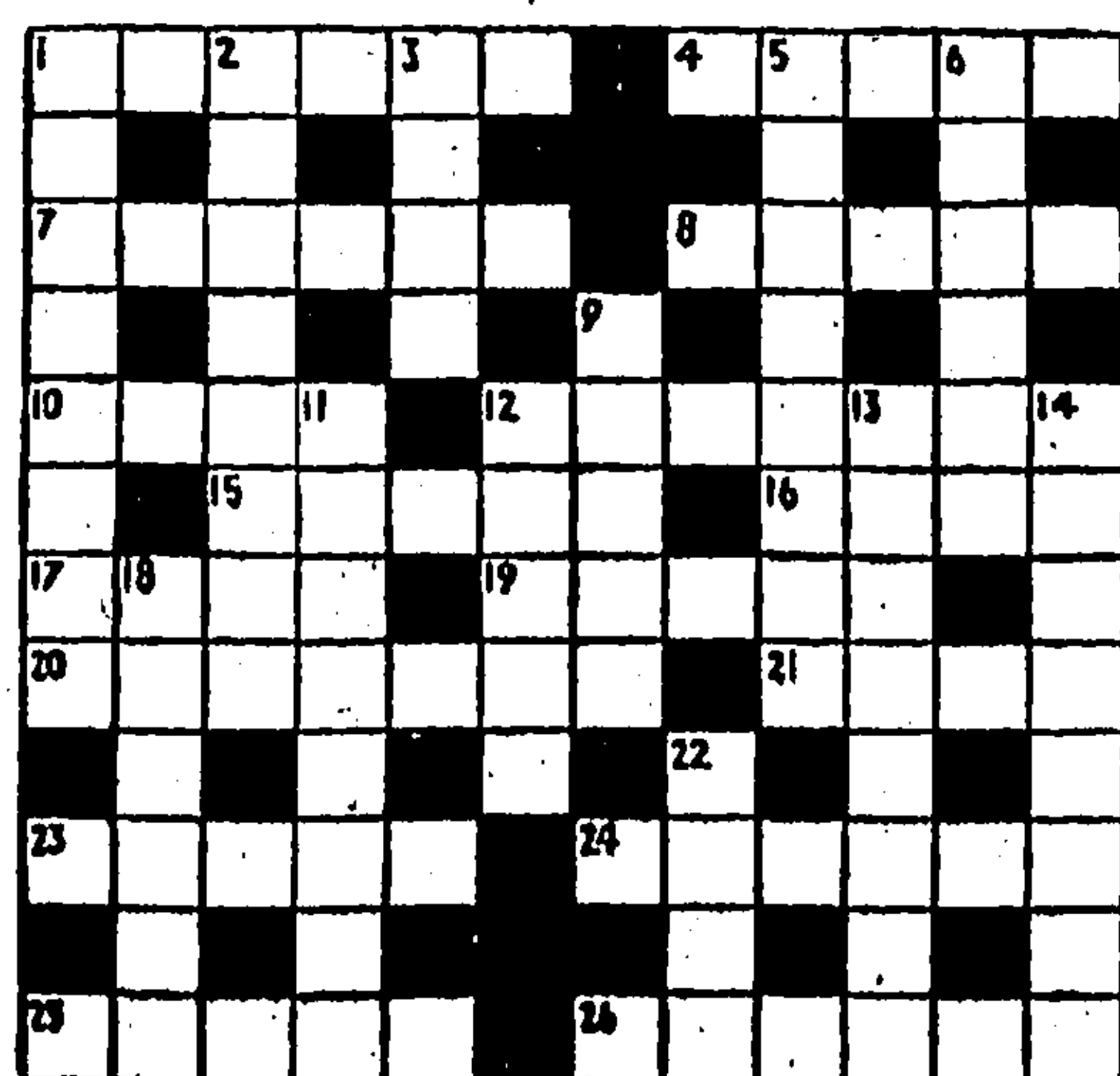
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A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- 1 Magnificent (6).
 - 4 Scratch up 20 runs? (5).
 - 7 Closely occupied (6).
 - 8 Little (4).
 - 10 Lazy (4).
 - 12 Flatter (7).
 - 15 Diver? (5).
 - 16 Always (4).
 - 17 Skin disease (4).
 - 18 Deluge (5).
 - 20 Withdraw (7).
 - 21 Caud (4).
 - 22 Undone (5).
 - 24 Loss advanced (6).
 - 25 Dopes (8).
 - 26 Degrees of progress (6).
- DOWN
- 1 Sword (8).
 - 2 Peevish (8).
 - 3 His films are of the highest (4).
 - 5 Hole (8).
 - 6 Toll (6).
 - 9 Skilled (6).
 - 11 Coming out (8).
 - 12 Test purity of metals (6).
 - 13 Warding off (8).
 - 14 Rubbings out (8).
 - 15 Vault (6).
 - 22 Channel (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 3 Repeats, 8 Litter, 9 Finished, 11 Retainer, 12 True, 13 Bore, 15 Delay, 16 Azov, 23 Sincere, 24 Director, 25 Torso, 26 Drowned. Down: 1 Alarm, 2 State, 3 Refined, 4 Eden, 5 Fair, 6 Cohere, 7 Sudden, 10 Newel, 14 Remit, 15 Tapered, 16 Candid, 17 Horser, 20 Rusty, 21 Waist, 22 Scan, 23 Mole.

America To Keep Base In Azores

Lisbon, Jan. 23.

The Foreign Office announced today that Portugal will continue to grant facilities to the United States in the strategic Azores islands.

A statement, released simultaneously in Lisbon and Washington, said negotiations for the formal renewal of the 1951 Portuguese-United States Azores Treaty had been temporarily postponed, because of the illness of Portuguese Foreign Minister Dr

Paulo Cunha.

The statement said it was hoped negotiations would resume soon.

The five-year treaty giving American forces peace-time rights in the Azores technically expired on December 31.

The islands are an important key to the defence of the Atlantic in time of war. They lie 1,800 miles southwest of London and 2,000 miles east of New York.

The peacetime facilities granted the United States apply only to

restricted zones of Terceira Island, one of the nine islands comprising the Azores.

Under the 1951 agreement the United States has the right to full facilities on the Azores if war should break out during the lifetime of NATO. NATO has another 15 years to run.

Also under the agreement, Portugal reserved the right to extend similar facilities enjoyed by the United States to Britain.—United Press.



Ancestor worship

FRANCIS QUARLES saw the advertisement in the "Personal" column, and was amused by it briefly: Colonel John Jacob Hathernmill seeks information about his American ancestors. Such information, if properly documented, will be paid for.

Hathernmill is an unusual name, and Quarles remembered the advertisement a month later, when the name appeared on his appointments pad.

His visitor proved to be Miss Muriel Hathernmill, a trim, dapper little woman in her thirties.

"I don't want to see you on my own account, it's about my uncle," Quarles mentioned the advertisement. "That's it. He's suffering from a bad attack of ancestor worship, and I'm afraid he's on the way to being swindled. Trouble is I can't see just how."

"Tell me about it."

"My uncle isn't a fool, don't think that," she said sharply. "He was a regular soldier, commanded a regiment in the 1914-18 war. Home Guard in the last one. He's shrewd enough, except about one thing. Family."

"We trace our ancestry back to the 18th century, perfectly respectable wool merchants in the Midlands. That isn't enough for uncle. He believes that there was another branch of the family which went out to America about the time of the Pilgrim Fathers, and settled in Virginia. In family legend this particular Hathernmill has the same name as my uncle, John Jacob."

"That's what has made him so keen on finding out details. That, and the fact that he's tremendously keen on everything American. Would go out there, I think, except that he's got high blood pressure and his doctor says he'd be unwise to travel."

Quarles put his fingertips together. "As I remember the advertisement mentioned properly documented information. What does your uncle hope to find?"

She shrugged. "Papers, photographs, old books. He doesn't know himself. But he's in the mood to buy anything from anybody. That's what worries me."

FRANCIS QUARLES

FINDS OUT



The letter covered four closely written pages. Quarles read fragments of it.

"And somebody's turned up with things to sell?" She said slowly. "I'm not sure that I can say that. It's an American named Jackson, and he says he comes from Virginia and has relatives there. He's supposed to be making inquiries. He and uncle seem to spend all day poring over old books and records. I daresay it's all right, but I just don't like the man."

"What do you want to do about it?" "I wondered if you could come and see uncle one day, and meet Jackson. See what you think of him. I can introduce you as a friend of mine who knows something about genealogy."

Quarles rubbed his chin. "All right." When she had gone he went to the London Library and spent some time looking up appropriate volumes.

Four days later he went to Col. John Hathernmill's house

in St John's Wood, and met Jackson. The American was a self-assured man with rimless glasses and a bow tie. He had a bubbling enthusiasm which was infectious.

It had certainly infected Hathernmill, who listened eagerly to everything Jackson said.

Quarles tested out Jackson's knowledge as well as he could from his own casual reading, without finding any flaws in it. In fact, however, up to the present the Colonel's and Jackson's joint researches had discovered nothing.

"What about this relative of yours, Miss Freeman?" the Colonel asked, impatiently cutting short a discussion about the origin of Virginian place-names.

"Sarah Lou Freeman..." Jackson chuckled. "If anybody can help you, Colonel, it will be Sarah Lou. Although I'm a Southerner by birth I've spent too many years in New York to be much real help. But Sarah

has a book kept by Henrietta Freeman. He seems, indeed, to have been rather a flake of hers, although it came to nothing. He was the local doctor and by way of being a character. I have had one page of the book photographed and enclose it..."

There was much more, to the effect that she would not in ordinary circumstances think of parting with the Commonplace Book, but that the house had been needing repairs for years, and that if there was a prospect of getting them done—well, she left it to her dear Thomas to say what the book was worth.

Quarles looked at the photograph. It showed a page of characteristic 17th century script and told how Doctor Jacob Hathernmill had treated the whole Freeman family for mumps for which he had prescribed cooling drinks and warm flannel next the skin.

Quarles read no further. Colonel Hathernmill tugged his moustache complacently. "A remarkable find," Quarles said. "I don't know what kind of forgery you'll receive for your 3,000 dollars, Colonel, but I do know that it won't come from America, any more than this letter did. Or Mr Jackson here."

"Just look at this letter. The real meat of it is the stuff about the Commonplace Book, the rest is padding. But the padding has been done carefully. There are two exclusively English words in it, words no American would ever use, unless they'd lived for years in England. Americans don't talk about lifts, but about elevators, and for them pavements are called sidewalks. That means the letter is a forgery."

"Where's Jackson?" The scoundrel roared the Colonel. Below them a door banged. Muriel went to the window. "Mr Jackson is running very hard down the street."

The Colonel looked sadly at the photograph. "Do you suppose, Mr Quarles, this means that I never had an American ancestor?"

"I've no idea, Colonel. But I think you would be wise if you rested happy with the English ones."

By JULIAN SYMONS

Lou now, who just lives for nothing else but antiquities. She collects them, has done since she was a young woman."

"Where does she live?" Muriel Hathernmill asked.

"She lives in Richmond, has done all her life. She's a kind of a grand-aunt of mine. But she's paying a visit to New York at the moment, only the third time she's been out of Virginia altogether. As soon as she gets back you can rely on it she'll do her level best to find that old John Jacob of yours, Colonel."

"It can't be too soon for me," the Colonel said. Quarles left with the feeling that Jackson was some sort of con man, but without any kind of proof to back it up.

It was a week later that Muriel Hathernmill telephoned and said: "Jackson's got them. The proofs. Or so he claims. He's asking 3,000 dollars, and uncle's going to pay it."

"What does he want 3,000 dollars for?" Quarles asked. "Some kind of book that his grand aunt's discovered. Oh, Mr Quarles, do come and see uncle. I made him promise to do nothing before you looked at the thing."

In the house at St John's Wood, Quarles found Jackson and an excited Colonel Hathernmill. The American greeted him exuberantly.

"Well, Mr Quarles, little old Sarah Lou has done it. You see, she's just placed that original John Jacob Hathernmill right where he lived, in Cecil-town, near Charleston. Seems he was a person of some account, too."

Colonel Hathernmill tugged at his moustache. "I'm infinitely grateful to you, Jackson. You don't know what this means to me."

"Might I know exactly what it is that your grand-aunt has discovered?" Quarles asked.

"Sure," Jackson was amiable. "Only she hasn't discovered it, she's had it for years. I told you, she's a collector of antiquities. Here's her letter and she's sent a photograph of one page from the Common-place Book she talks about."

The letter covered four closely-written pages. Quarles read fragments of it, only schemes only cover patients up to three or four pounds' worth of treatment a day.

While New Yorkers were still shaking their heads over the lists of dead, I investigated the fate of the injured. For every American killed, there were three who landed up in hospital.

Walk through the forbidding wards of the average American hospital as I did and you will find them—pathetic victims of speed-crazy "road-hogs" with only broken bones and shattered bodies to greet the New Year.

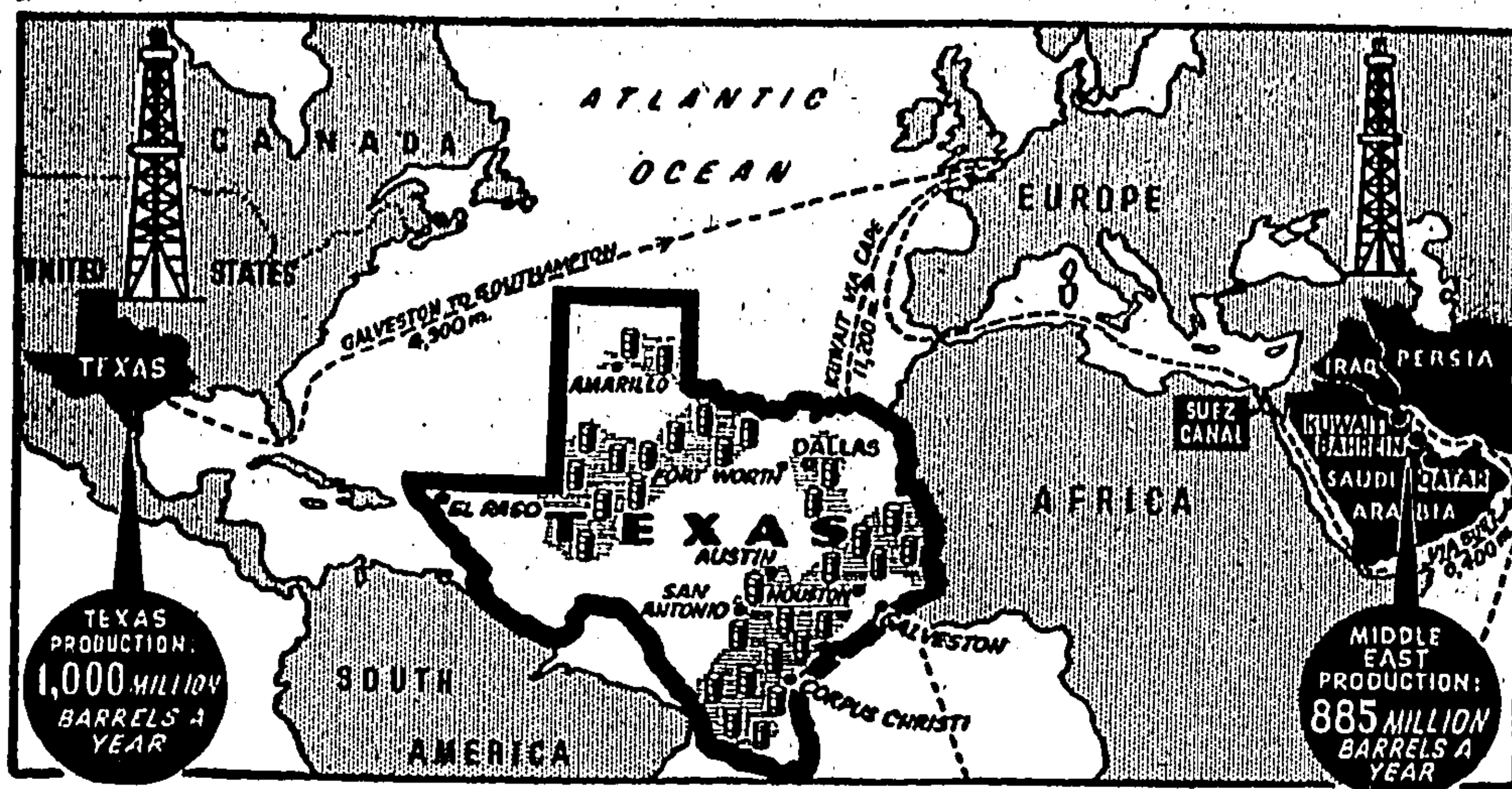
I have only just finished investigating American hospitals. Everywhere I found the same story. American hospitals have the same nursing shortage as those in other countries. And thousands of patients worry so much about finding the money to pay for their treatment that their recovery is often delayed.

You can expect knowing smiles from American doctors if British doctors walk out of the United Kingdom's Health Service as they are threatening to do. The very idea of a Health Service has always terrified the American Medical Association.

Tell them that Ancurin Bevan resigned because a shilling was clapped on British prescriptions and they laugh out loud. It costs the equivalent of £3 just to have a cellophane replaced a tooth if you lose one in New York.

While the medical profession in America is a multi-million dollar gold-mine for doctors, patients are throwing up their hands, pawing their jewellery, even selling their houses, to pay their bills.

Deep in the heart of Texas



HEALTH FOR CASH

by William Foster

America is still mourning the biggest traffic disaster in her history. It will be a long time before she forgets Christmas and the New Year. Over a thousand Americans were killed on the roads.

Tom is one of the lucky ones. He has an oil-wealthy father with a well-lined bank account. At the rate of £6 a day for a private room in a New York hospital, plus £14 a day for three special nurses, it had cost the old man £1,100 in less than a month.

There would have been another £650 on top of that if Tom had not been paying into a health insurance scheme. Most schemes only cover patients up to three or four pounds' worth of treatment a day.

With Tom, in the wreckage of his car, they found a college friend. He, too, had been paying \$100 a year into a health insurance scheme. But months of litigation followed before the insurance people paid up.

Operation after operation ran up a bill of \$30,000 in a matter of months. "I had to take the hat round all my friends and ask them to guarantee so much," Tom told me.

Tom and his friend both walk with a limp today. But it might have been worse. Americans who simply can't pay inflated doctors' bills are sent to the grim, fortress-like city hospitals which are supported by ratepayers.

And badgering stories filter through, of badly injured patients dying in ambulances. If you investigate, you find they were often on their way from the nearest private hospital to a "free" hospital.

All too often doctors have discovered, when admitting a patient, that he hasn't any money saved up to pay their bills.

What will happen to today's accident cases, crippled in recent holiday smashes? Thirty-one-year-old Tom Peyton was driving peacefully along an American highway just a year ago when disaster in the shape of an American Lincoln came thundering over the crest of a hill and ploughed into him like a runaway tank.

He can't stay here if he can't pay his way," they storm. "Put him in an ambulance and send him somewhere else."

Private hospitals are compelled by law to set aside a fixed percentage of "free" beds. They are always grumbling about it. They cost \$30 a day to maintain, and the ratepayers only pay half.

What could be done to improve American hospitals? Many Americans would like to see part of the doctors' huge profit distributed among the nurses. There are vacancies for fifty thousand more nurses in America. No wonder. They are paid even less than office boys. Nurses are forever walking out of one hospital and signing on at another where wages are higher.

There was only one good reason for not walking out altogether that I could discover. Nurses get FREE hospital treatment if they need it.

Like other countries, including Britain, America needs more and bigger hospitals. Out of five thousand hospitals, 3,450 hold fewer than a hundred patients and don't pay their way.

And people in other countries who complain that the old-fashioned "family doctor" is on his way out should visit America. American general practitioners are so bothered by new medical discoveries that they can't keep up to date any more.

More and more patients are being sent straight from their doctors' waiting rooms to "diagnosticians." The only job these gentry have is to say what is wrong and recommend a specialist. It all adds up to more "red tape," more waste of time, and MORE MONEY.

The wife of an Irish diplomat at the United Nations thinks she knows the answer to American doctors' bills. "God bless us, it's frightening to think of getting ill," she told me. "I'd jump on the first boat and go home."

The oil bosses bargain

BEFORE Suez, Britain bought nearly all her oil in the Middle East. Kuwait, with 8 million barrels a month out of 16.3 million, was Britain's biggest supplier, followed by Venezuela (11.7 million), Bahrain, Qatar, and the Trucial States (1.5 million) and Iraq (1 million).

Now Britain has to look west for oil. But the American companies are putting up prices and demanding that Britain must undertake to go on buying their oil even after Suez is clear.

20,000 wells

Two-thirds of world oil is produced in the Americas (compared with little more than a sixth in the Middle East). The United States alone produces half the world's oil—and Texas alone more than a fifth.

Texas has 20,000 oil wells, and dollar problems apart—could relieve Europe's shortage at the drop of a ten-gallon hat. But the Texans are not boring all the oil they could. They have 270 million barrels in storage, and have been cutting production to push up prices.

Is such tough business "unfriendly" to oil-starved Europe? The name "Texas" means "friends"—but the State emblem is the mocking bird!

Superlatives

If the petrol crisis lasts long, Texas could grow even richer. Already it is the state of superlatives. From west to east it measures farther, than New York to Chicago.

It has the most beef, sheep, wool, mohair, cotton lint, farms, and Sunday newspapers of any U.S. State. Its population has grown from 220,000 to 8½ million in a hundred years.

And somewhere in Pecos County it boasts the deepest hole in the world for 15,770 feet, that symbolises the fathomless reserves of wealth of the Lone Star State.

A Feudal Welfare State Turns Out The Goods

From FREDERICK ELLIS in OSAKA

The biggest squawk I hear as a financial journalist at home is Lancashire's: "How can we compete with Japanese slave labour?"

Well, Osaka is the Japanese Manchester and Birmingham rolled into one, with a garish rainbow of night neon that makes London's Piccadilly a dull place. And New York is a country retreat compared with the day-and-night-long symphony of Osaka taxi horns.

On the outskirts of this the second largest city of Japan, I looked today at what Lancashire looks like to call a slave camp—with three bowls of rice a day.

Well, Lancashire's lasses get some of the Osaka facilities. They have a swimming pool, baseball, football, and volley-ball pitches with facilities for judo, fencing, and archery. All very British.

And all around were shrubs and trees that are a feature of Japanese life. "Who uses the tennis courts?" I asked my Japanese guide. "The operatives," he said, looking mystified that I should ask such a question.

The family

All Japanese mills and plants operate on a semi-feudal system. Workers join for life, regarding themselves as part of the family.

In this Osaka plant all the workers, from the chairman downwards, live in.

park-like setting with lawns. The buildings are modern. Dotted around were tennis courts, a swimming pool, baseball, football, and volley-ball pitches with facilities for judo, fencing, and archery. All very British.

And all around were shrubs and trees that are a feature of Japanese life. "Who uses the tennis courts?" I asked my Japanese guide. "The operatives," he said, looking mystified that I should ask such a question.

The food

Three meals a day cost the workers just over a shilling, a bargain by Japanese or Lancashire standards. Meals are the only deduction from wages. The rest is spending money.

Lancashire's lasses earn around £7 a week, with paid holidays the only perk.

But it is impossible to say what all these Japanese perks, called the "invisible supply," are worth.

There is no end to them—club rooms, films, cut-price shops, even much-prized baths. And free buses.

rice. But then the Japanese will without rice. It is their daily bread.

The company provides everything—a sort of private welfare State.

The hospital has 50 beds, doctors, dentists, nurses. There is a beauty parlour for the girls, a barber shop for the men. All on the firm.

The clothes

All workers here from the manager downwards wear the company uniform. It is protective clothing, clean and neat. The men wear khaki denims, the girls attractive blue blouses, slacks, white shoes, and coloured head scarves.

The girls' look chic. And they do not have to pay for it. So really it is a mockery to judge Japanese textile wages by the oft-quoted basic wage of £2.15 a month for girls, £2.20 a month for men.

The men and girls work the British 48-hour week—including a full day Saturday. But here's the rub for Lancashire. Everybody works a two-shift system.

This is unpopular in Lancashire, particularly with trades unions. But it is more the secret of the Japanese textiles' than the "how-of-the-ship" squawk.

But if you are one of the many wanting a TISSOT timepiece, it will pay to wait on the arrival of the 1957 collection—expected shortly.

The manufacturers of Tissot regret the temporary shortage and promise that their ladies and gent's quality timekeepers will shortly be available in the latest models, and all in the famed tradition of Société Suisse Pour l'Industrie Horlogère S.A. Geneva, Switzerland.



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COLONY FIFTEEN AGAINST JAPANESE WILL BE PICKED NEXT WEDNESDAY

By "PAK LO"

Yesterday evening after watching the Probables win their match against the Possibles by 3 points (1 try) to nil the Selectors sat down to decide upon the players for the Combined Services and Combined Civilian.

The original idea to also select the Colony XV was dropped, and the selection will take place after the Services game on Wednesday against the Japanese Touring XV.

The Selectors will thus be able to watch the Civilian game against the Japanese on the Club ground on Monday as well as the Services game.

Certainly this was the only good decision the Selectors made during the evening for their choice of players appears to be a hodge podge of outstanding stars and second raters. In fact their Reserves for both games contain more better players than their selection.

This is particularly so in the Services Selection where Newton, who played an excellent game last night as well as in previous matches, is a reserve while Riley is selected as a centre three. Riley has by no means been impressive of late and his selection is a mystery.

But not half so much a mystery as the fact that Hanman, whom I along with many others would class as one of the two best second row forwards in the Colony is replaced by Judd of the Navy who while a good lock forward is certainly not in the same class as Hanman as a second row forward.

They have also chosen Kay in place of Pritchard, and while this is not an error of the first magnitude, I would not

have selected Pritchard as the possessor of the safer pair of hands, and as good if not a better touch kicker.

ANOTHER SURPRISE

Another surprise selection is Crabbe as the front row forward. While he was selected for the Probable Possible game and no other Service game, the exception of de Cordova played in the front row, the latter incidentally fully deserving his place, I feel that a much better choice would have been Crabbe, who is on a par with Crabbe, and who would thus give Barker two props he is used to playing with.

Then the Civilian XV. The same occurs again here. Only one of the Selection meeting was even was Langley, who did not appear in the original list, appear in the reserves, promoted to the front row. But an even worse blunder appears in the selection of Roberts as reserve.

Roberts who is without doubt one of the finest centre three in the Colony, although he has had to fill a gap at full back for the Club, is held back while Valentine and Lloyd are preferred. That Roberts is superior to either of these two is without

doubt a well known fact, and on his play lately I would have dropped Lloyd and put Roberts in his place.

One good decision the Selection Committee did make was that the pack would be led by Miller, and this should bring the forwards together.

A SOLID PACK

Incidentally I have it on good authority that the Japanese though only weighing an average of 154 lbs in the pack will show any side of the ball. Being smaller in stature they get the undershove and are trained as a solid pack, and the best chance of local sides getting possession of the ball is in the lineouts. The Japanese when throwing in do not toss it high in the air, but send it straight in like a bullet, depending on the speed of the ball, to give their side a chance of getting to it. The same authority assures me that under the local XV can get at least 50 per cent share of the ball the Japanese will win, for they are extremely fit, and once the ball has gone along the three line there are fourteen three ready to join in.

There are still three old players who took part in the last Hongkong tour to Japan, and their services should, I feel, be called upon immediately so that the teams facing the Japanese may have some idea on their special modes of play.

On the whole, however, after seeing the efforts of the Selection Committee I am willing to prophesy that unless they take a new line for the Colony XV the Japanese Touring XV will win all three of their games by spectacular margins.

TEAMS

Combined Civilian: Johnston (Police), Stevens (Club), Valentine (Club), Lloyd (Police), Satter (Club), O'Kelly (Police), Steward (Club), Williams (Club), Meffan (Club), Langley (Club), Miller (Navy), Dore (Army), Corner (Navy), de Cordova (Capt. Club), Wright (Club), Walker (Police). Reserves: Roberts (Club), D. Miller (Police), Gault (Club), Lewis (Police).

Combined Services: Kay (Navy), Sharpe (Army), King (Army), Riley (Army), Spencer (Navy), Dore (Army), Corner (Navy), de Cordova (Capt. Club), Barker (Army), Crabbe (Army), Judd (Navy), Barker (Army), Green (Army), Jones (Army).

NON-OFFICIAL

Recently Mr K. A. Watson wrote in to say that certain dates with regard to the Navy winning a Tournament were in error. Apparently Mr Watson is in error himself and this column was right, though there is a very feasible explanation for Mr Watson's mistake.

While he did play in a Tournament in 1941, it appears that since the war was then in full swing, and with so many players having left the Colony for the Forces, it was decided to continue the series as far as was possible, but that, like the International home during war time, they would not be officially counted.

Thus while Mr Watson is correct in saying the Navy won the Tournament, he would be more correct to say that the Navy won the unofficial Tournament.

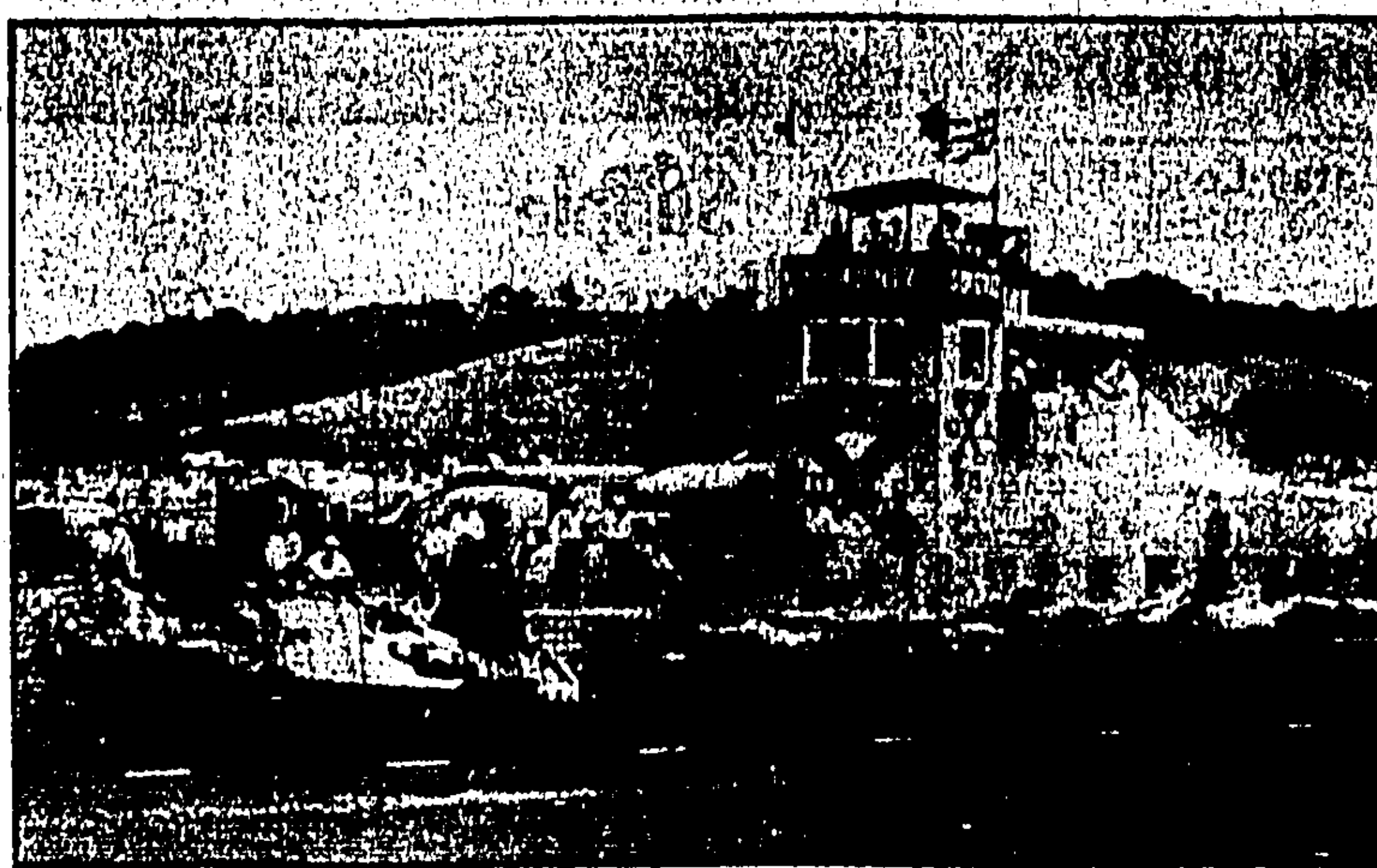
Lately there has been the greatly anticipated arrival of the Japanese Touring XV been a considerable switching of games scheduled to be played as per the fixture list, and it appears that many people are baffled with so many changes. Therefore tomorrow, this column will carry up to date revised fixture list covering all the games up to February 27.

Non-Title Fight Postponed To February 6

Barcelona, Jan. 23. Filipino bantamweight boxer Tanny Campa's non-title fight against Spanish Francisco Canchua has been postponed until February 6, it was announced today.

The organisers of the boxing programme, which included the Campa-Canchua fight, said they were unable to stage the programme at the Barcelona Sports Palace this month—France Press.

DEATH OF A RACING MOTORIST



Picture from Auckland, New Zealand, shows how the British racing motorist, Ken Wharton, lost his life whilst driving a Ferrari in the International Grand Prix. This picture shows the car turning over and Ken Wharton being flung clear amid the bales of hay and oil drums.—Central Press Photo.

Brasher Not The First To Suggest More Training Centres For Athletes

London, Jan. 23.

Few cheques have caused such a stir in sporting circles as did one for £25 which has been written by Chris Brasher, the Olympic Steeplechase winner and Britain's only track gold medalist at the Melbourne Games.

It is the seed that could grow, properly fertilised by other cheques, into a very big tree — the nucleus for British athletic triumphs of the future.

In effect Brasher made his gesture in the nature of a protest against the lack of training facilities for British athletes, and so drew attention to a state of affairs which has often been blamed for the inferiority shown by Britons in international sport.

When remembering the advantages enjoyed by athletes of other countries, particularly on the European continent, it is somewhat strange that no real training centre exists in Britain. But while there is no desire for state controlled athletics, and their accompanying facilities, Brasher is not the first person to suggest that there at the top of the sport in Britain do not do all in their power for the individual.

The up and coming youngsters, or even the raw recruit who may have an idea he would like to go in for athletics, just does not have anywhere to go either to train or to be guided along the right lines.

A GAMBLE

What Brasher did was to start a gamble, somewhat similar to the premium bonds introduced to the country by Mr Macmillan, Britain's Prime Minister, when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer. Brasher hung down his cheque with his cheque in the hope that 99 other people should do the same thing, or that ten organisations wrote similar cheques with the exception that they added a "pound" and made them for £250. Either way a £2,500 fund would be created and that would be enough to finance a training centre.

If the money is forthcoming Brasher "wins" his challenge but surrenders his £25. If not Brasher gets his cheque back (as do any others who have

subscribed) but there is no doubt at all that the steeplechase rider hopes fervently that he will "lose" his cheque and that the centre will come into being.

How unselfish is the gesture we know from the fact that Brasher does not want a training centre for himself. He has announced his retirement from big athletics but he is concerned about the future and wants to see youngsters given the chance of indoor training.

It is his dream and he spoke from the experience of having had no place to go when he left Cambridge University and came to London to live.

When presented with the Sportsman of the Year trophy recently Brasher must have upset quite a few when he said, before a big audience, apart from millions of TV viewers, that he wished "the administration had kept pace with the progress of athletics."

NO DISGRACE

It was at a luncheon given in his honour by his London Borough that he threw down the gauntlet, with his cheque, and remarked "There is no disgrace whatever in taking a pro-

fessional outlook in sport today. If you want to get to the top you have to take this attitude." That too will up to come of the hidebound purists but for whom British sport might be in a healthier state.

Brasher's aim is a building that is equipped with every type of gear for the athlete. Even nets for discus and hammer throwers, a sprint starting area, space for lawn tennis and basketball, and a 50 yards sprint track with hurdles available.

Such a venture would not be only for established athletes to keep in trim but would be an incentive for "anyone and everyone"—the birthplace perhaps of athletic stars of the future.—China Mail Special.

Not As Long As 100 Metres

Manila, Jan. 24.

A near world record time of 11.4 seconds in the 100 Metres Dash, allegedly registered by a Filipino woman sprinter, Rogella Ferrer, two days ago was pronounced a "dud" yesterday by the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation (PAAF).

A PAAF investigation committee found out that the track was 9.64 metres short of 100 metres.

The PAAF group said that the race was started from the wrong point, a point much nearer to the finishing line.—France-Press.

HKFA Suspends Two Players

At a meeting of the Emergency Sub-Committee of the Hongkong Football Association held yesterday the following cases were dealt with and from evidence adduced the decisions arrived at were:

Armstrong of Royal Navy FA was found guilty of striking an opponent during a First Division match between Navy and Eastern on January 6 and was suspended up to and including February 10, 1957.

Yuen Chi-wah of China Gymnastic Association was found guilty of violent conduct during a Junior Shield match between Gymnastic and CMB on January 13, and was suspended up to and including July 12, 1957.

Hart Royal—A Fine Prospect For Grand National

London, Jan. 24.

At Lambourn, in Berkshire, there is a Grand National horse of the "heavy" list. He loathes visitors and his trainer, Ian Lomax, has taken precautions to see that he is not disturbed.

This shy steeplechaser, Hart Royal (by Mount Royal-Roe Deer) cost only 400 guineas, but he has won four races and nearly £200 in prize money in 14 months.

Before going to Lambourn, Hart Royal was trained by Mr Lomax's father-in-law, W. F. Ransom, at Wellington, Lincolnshire. He never won a race when with Mr Ransom, whose daughter says gleefully: "He got fed up with him and put him up for sale."

A fortnight after joining the Lomax establishment, Hart Royal, with Mrs Lomax in the saddle, won a point-to-point race. He was the stable's first runner under the Lomax name, and made the occasion a winning one. That was in November 1955 at Towcester, in the Midlands. Since then he has been the stable's most successful inmate.

Mrs Lomax, who has ridden many point-to-point winners, has schooled Hart Royal since he joined her husband's stable, and under her tuition he has developed into a fine Grand National prospect.

The nine-year-old chestnut proved his stamina for the gruelling Aintree race when he finished second in a four miles and one furlong race at Hurst Park, Surrey, last season and, says his owner, "he stays for ever and no going is too soft for him."

Peter Pliskford, who won on Hart Royal at Worcester recently in the gelding's only race of the season—another "first" in the sequence—will partner him in the Grand National on March 29.—China Mail Special.

The Cup Cure For Soccer

By Stanley Matthews

There's a lesson for all clubs and players in the crowds who have packed the terraces for this season's Cup games.

It proves that no matter how official a plan for success, it is the men on the field who have the real power in their feet. I have always maintained that if you guarantee 100 per cent football entertainment you will get the crowds.

The other week that the game needed. The Cup would bring out the best in the players. It was just the tonic the game needed.

Even fans disappointed at their own club's failure could not grumble. They got value for money—thrills galore... goals by the dozen.

CUP SPIRIT

I am sure that if we could inject some of the Cup spirit into the League there would be no complaints that football is becoming dull.

Cup hero for Burnley was 17-year-old Ian Lawson, scorer of four goals in his first big game.

He was seen playing in North-East schools football by a Burnley scout in 1954 and recommended to manager Allan Brown.

But Lawson had two school pals, Jimmy Robson and Ian Flowers, and they wanted to join the same club.

Allan Brown took all three. Lawson has made the grade, Robson is ready for a crack at League football, and 15½-year-old Flowers is one of the club's brightest prospects.

(London Express Service). (COPYRIGHT)

Turning On The Heat

Accrington Innovation is a VIP stand at Peel Park, with special roof heaters which insure warmth for visiting officials and home directors in the coldest weather. The idea is to be extended to the public stands when the club can afford it.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fastest 10 Miles

By A Briton

Dear Sir.—So Bob Pape has done it again, and better time again. Fifty minutes 28 seconds for the 10 Miles last year and now 48 minutes 18.4 seconds for a slightly altered course. Given the correct distance, that is a record not merely for the Colony but for the whole British Empire as well.

Ian Birnie's Ten Miles track record for Great Britain stands at 50 minutes 11 seconds and Zatopek's world Ten Miles track record at 48 minutes 12 seconds is only a minute or so better.

Road races are generally faster than track on the level but surely not when they involve 280 feet of steep climbing (for the four laps) as this one does. And note that Ian Birnie on the road the other day ran his best course time ever in the McCAndrew Trophy Relay at 4 minutes 35 seconds per mile for the 3½ miles, as compared with Pape's 4 minutes 57 seconds per mile for a whole ten miles.

With these astounding comparisons in mind I have just measured this year's course with a cycle wheel, walking it by the exact route I took myself in the race walk, which was presumably the same as Bob Pape's.

From the circuit to the finishing line at the school it is 21 yards short and the other circuits, by previous measurement, are almost the same as the finishing circuit.

This means that Pape covered 85 yards, say 14 seconds, less than ten miles. So the comparisons still stand. All we need now, to clinch the formalities, is that he should do the Ten Miles on the line Government Stadium track, when I have no doubt he would turn in an equally notable performance.

One should certainly add that the second and third, Westo (55m 9.3s) and Chan Hung-man (55m 22.3s) and the fourth too (Chan Siu-bun, 55m 55m) were all very fine performances.

The best performance of Peter West, Hongkong's previous best and a near international performer, was over 64 minutes. And two years ago the race was won by Chan King-yin in 60 minutes 34.8 secs., not a slow performance either for the course.

Most satisfying, I suggest, is the fact that Hongkong's local men show such great improvement due in part, I am sure, to the fine example set by the competitors from the Forces.

G. S. KENNEDY SKIPTON.

Ferenc Puskas Denies Report He's Returning Home

Rio De Janeiro, Jan. 23.

Ferenc Puskas, captain of the Hungarian international football team, denied today Budapest report that he would return to Hungary towards the end of February.

Puskas, who is now with the Hungarian "Honved" team touring South America, said he had not made any statement regarding his return to Hungary.

The Honved team manager, Emil Costantinescu, said that after the South American tour, each of his players would individually try to find a place in European clubs.

Costantinescu said he had refused an offer from the Argentine "Atletico Platense Club" to integrate the entire "Honved" team into its club.—France-Press.

Indians Share Honours With Burma At Soccer

Rangoon, Jan. 23.

India's Olympic football team drew 4-4 with a selected Burma team here today, after an interval score of 1-2.

Neville de Souza, at centre-forward scored three times for India.—South.

Britain Hopes To Do Even Better In 1960 Olympic Games

London, Jan. 23.

Britain, who gained their first Olympic swimming gold medal for 32 years at Melbourne, hope to do even better in the 1960 Olympics in Rome.

They begin their training on April 16 with an advanced course at Loughborough Physical Training College in Leicestershire for 30 swimmers between the ages of 13 and 17.

"It's the start of finding the nucleus for the next Olympics," said Mr Alf Price, the British team manager. "You can't make a team, it has to be built up from the mass. There may have to be some weeding out from this select few during the years but there will be additions to make up for the losses."

Britain's successes in the 1956 Olympics have been attributed to a certain extent to the previous courses which were begun ten years ago with the 1956 Olympics in view.

The last British Olympic team, including Judy Grinham, the gold medal winner, and Margaret Edwards, the bronze medalist, showed marked improvement after attending those courses.

Mr A. D. Kinnear, physical training instructor at Loughborough, will be in charge of the training programme which includes lectures and gymnasium work besides the swimming practices in the indoor and outdoor pools.

HIGH HONOURS

These aspirants to high honours will pay a nominal three guineas towards each of the course, which is estimated at a total of £450 sterling. This year's party will not be known until the end of February, but among the most likely to be chosen is 14-year-old Christian Barry, from Stoke Newington. When only 12, she came within an ace of winning the British Junior Freestyle sprint title. The following year, in 1955, she won the 110 Yards and 220 Yards titles in 1 minute 10.5 seconds and 2 mins. 38.5 seconds respectively.

Dinah Wilkinson, 13-year-old schoolgirl from Stockport, is another potential Olympic swimmer. She set a record for the British Junior 110 Yards Free Style with 2 mins 38.8 seconds in a county match last year. Boys' performances in Britain have improved during the past 12 months but they are still not

of a high standard. Keith Wallwork of Swinton is a versatile young swimmer and with the Junior 110 Yards and 220 Yards Free Style to his credit has an excellent chance of selection.

Peter Kendrew, of York, the British schools champion, has also shown promise by covering the 110 Yards in 60.6 seconds.—China Mail Special.

4th Asian TT Championships Hongkong Meet Cambodia, Taiwan And Vietnam At Manila Today

Manila, Jan. 24.

The Fourth Asian Table Tennis Championships will get underway at 10 local time this morning with brief opening ceremonies at the Rizal Coliseum, highlighted by a welcome address by the Vice-President and Foreign Secretary, Mr Carlos Garcia.

Actual competitions, however, will not start until 2 p.m. local time this afternoon. Team competition in both the Men's and Women's Divisions will start off the week-long tourney.

Four matches will be played in the Men's Division this afternoon. Hongkong will tackle Cambodia and the Philippines battle Taiwan while Vietnam takes on Korea.

In the women's team competition, Taiwan meets Vietnam and the Philippines play Korea.

The evening sees another four men's team and two women's team engagements. Hongkong faces Taiwan and the Philippines will clash with India. Cambodia plays Vietnam and Korea.

In the women's evening sessions Hongkong is pitted against Vietnam and Taiwan against the Philippines.

The team championships continue until Sunday, January 27. The singles matches start on Tuesday, January 29.—France-Press.

ICE HOCKEY

Helsinki, Jan. 23. Two Finnish Ice Hockey Association announced today that Finland will take part in the World Ice Hockey Championships in Moscow from February 24 to March 3.—China Mail Special.

THE GAMBOOLS



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NEW INDOCTRINATION DRIVE IN RUSSIAN FORCES

By JOHN RETTIE

Moscow, Jan. 23.

A new drive is under way within the Soviet armed forces to intensify Communist indoctrination and suppress "bourgeois ideology hostile to the Soviet Union."

There has been not the slightest suggestion in the Army and Navy newspapers here of any open protests, mutinies or defections in the Soviet armed forces in Hungary or anywhere else.

But the Soviet Army newspaper Red Star has found it necessary to warn its readers against "the malicious will of reactionary foreign propaganda" and to demand "loyalty to the principles of proletarian internationalism."

ACHIEVEMENTS
It was this "duty to the international proletariat" which, the Soviet Communist Party has repeatedly declared, made it necessary to crush the Hungarian rebels and "defend the achievements of socialism" with the might of the Red Army.

Any doubts about the "principles of proletarian internationalism" in the army could obviously, therefore, not be tolerated.

The chief moral quality demanded of Soviet servicemen, Red Star declared in a leading article, is "profound ideological conviction, which means unshakable faith in the justness of the cause of the Communist Party and unbounded loyalty to the ideas of Marxism-Leninism."

Red Star indicated that the new drive is to be carried out mainly by junior officers, as the people most able to exert a direct influence on the troops.

CONVICTIONS
"The ideological conviction of Soviet officers is the result of the tremendous work carried on by the Communist Party in educating our military personnel," the newspaper pointed out. "It is therefore the duty of the officer to exert ideological influence on subordinates," to increase their "political sense" and their "feeling of personal responsibility for carrying out both their military duty to their country and their international duty."

Red Star told officers that they must "profoundly understand the great and noble character of the class tasks of the armed forces of the Soviet Union." It cited as an example a young officer who, it said, "never avoids unhealthy attitudes or incorrect interpretations of any political questions, and explains such questions from a position of Marxism-Leninism and social ideology."

Ideological conviction, it continued, forms the "basis of an intolerant attitude to the least appearance of bourgeois ideology hostile to us or to distortion of Marxist-Leninist teaching."

GRAVE WARNING
Finally, it gave this grave warning and exhortation to officers and men: "The ideologists of imperialism do all they can to poison the workers' minds with the venom of uncertainty in the cause of communism, and to undermine the profound respect and sympathy of all peoples for our country and the Soviet armed forces."

"The Communist Party demands that all of us, including military personnel, should carry on an active, resolute struggle against bourgeois ideology, should expose the

malicious will of reactionary foreign propaganda and educate Soviet people in a spirit of patriotic love for their country and loyalty to the principles of proletarian internationalism."

A similar picture of indoctrination emerges from reports on Communist Party and Komsomol (Communist Youth League) conferences held in various units.

SEVERELY CRITICISED
The newspaper Soviet Fleet, in a report of a Komsomol conference in one of the Navy's higher technical training institutes, noted that "participants of the conference severely criticised shortcomings in the political training of future officers."

"It must not be forgotten that any weakening in our militant agitation and propaganda," it added, "weakens the struggle against bourgeois and petty bourgeois ideology which penetrates our country from abroad. Questions put by young people must not be left unanswered."

Party and Komsomol propagandists must, it necessary, "resolutely begin arguments, refute in public and convincingly show the harm of any incorrect expressions of opinion."

UNIT COMMANDERS
Red Star said that speakers at a Communist Party conference in an unnamed unit called for "a more attentive attitude to Marxist-Leninist teaching on the part of young Communists, and especially unit commanders."

This drive for intensified indoctrination is part of a wider campaign in all spheres of activity to tighten up ideological discipline and nip in the bud any deviation from party line.—China Mail Special.

AUTOMATIC RAILWAY TIMETABLE



Czech-Soviet Discussions

Prague, Jan. 23.

A Czechoslovak Government delegation including seven top-ranking officials, headed by President Václav Zaprtoček, left here by special train today for Moscow on a five-day visit to the Soviet Union.

The delegation, which also included Premier Antonín Široký and Foreign Minister, Václav David, were to have "political and economic" discussions with Soviet leaders.

The delegation also included Communist Party chief, Antonín Novotný, first Vice-Premier Václav Kopecký, Defence Minister General Bohumír Lomský, Foreign Trade Minister, Richard Dvorský, and half a dozen other dignitaries. They were expected to arrive in Moscow tomorrow.—France-Press.

The new automatic timetable machine which has been installed in the main railway station of Zurich. For a 20 centime coin, the machine issues a printed slip giving required information on any selected train journey—times of arrival and departure, connections, and details of hotels and restaurants en route.—Express Photo.

Anglo-Jordan Talks Next Month

Amman, Jan. 23.

Mr. Suleiman Nabulsi, the Prime Minister of Jordan, said today that a special committee has been established to open negotiations on the termination of the Anglo-Jordanian Treaty.

The Prime Minister said yesterday that negotiations to end the treaty, evacuate British forces and liquidate British bases would begin next month.

Under the 1948 treaty, which was due to run until 1958, Britain pays about £12,000,000 sterling annually to Jordan. Britain has troops and an air base in the kingdom. Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia agreed in Cairo last Saturday to replace Britain's financial aid to Jordan.—Reuter.

Boy Kidnapped

Warsaw, Jan. 24.

Unknown people kidnapped the 12-year-old son of Boleslaw Pincuski, President of the Pax Catholic Organisation, on Wednesday and later in the day demanded over the telephone that Pincuski pay a ransom of nearly US\$250,000 for his return.

Militia, who rushed into action immediately after Pincuski reported the kidnapping, refused on Wednesday night to give any information concerning their investigations.—France-Press.

Move To Abolish Life Sentence

DEATH PENALTY WENT IN 1944

Rome, Jan. 23.

A move to abolish life imprisonment is slowly gaining support in Italy, where the Penal Code is already among the world's most lenient in its attitude to murder.

The death penalty was abolished in Italy after the collapse of fascism in 1944. But even during the Fascist regime, only those found guilty of particularly atrocious murders were condemned to death, and executed by a firing squad.

Now, the only place on the Italian peninsula where a person can be condemned to death legally in peacetime is the Vatican City. The Vatican's Code lays down that anyone "who makes attempts upon the life of the Pope or of the Supreme Pontiff" is liable to the death penalty.

are expected to ask Parliament to debate the question in the near future. In addition, they say that they will ask Italy's newly set up Constitutional Court (which deals with matters concerning the Constitution) for a ruling.

Public Debate

At a public debate in Venice recently on whether or not life imprisonment should be abolished, the majority of jurists, lawyers, prison governors, doctors and priests who attended agreed that life imprisonment is a vindictive rather than a re-educational penalty and moved that it be abolished.

The abolitionists have also organised discussions in television programmes and in the newspapers.

They argue that: "There are at present 893 people serving terms of life imprisonment in Italy. At least 30 per cent are mental cases. Some were mad or mentally backward when they committed the crime which sent them to prison for life; the others became mentally unbalanced in prison."

In addition, the majority of them suffer from stomach ulcers, partly caused by their prison diets and partly by what participants at the Venice Forum described as "excessive brooding on their state."

Hands Chained

When a life prisoner is moved from one prison to another, he travels in a steel-lined train cell, with a barred window measuring five square inches. His hands are chained together (chains are used instead of handcuffs in Italy). He is not allowed to leave this cell, which becomes a refrigerator in winter and a furnace in summer, throughout the journey.

But above all, the abolitionists claim, the life prisoner is deprived of that all-important thing in life—hope. A pardon is only possible after 30 years in prison, or after 30 years in prison, and only in exceptional cases is a pardon granted.

Amnesties do not affect him. The anti-abolitionists argue that the Italian Code is not very harsh with murderers. Only in cases of multiple murder and particularly vicious killings do Italian judges pass life sentences. For so-called "Crimes of passion," terms of 10 or 15 years, which may subsequently be reduced by good behaviour or by amnesties, are the rule rather than the exception.

A good proportion of convicts serving life terms are South Italian bandits with "many notches on their guns," the anti-abolitionists declare.

Middle Course

Many lawyers, taking a middle course, have said recently that the present laws concerning life imprisonment should be amended to allow a revision of each case after a certain number of years in prison. If the prisoner's conduct has been consistently good, and his health has deteriorated dangerously, a pardon, or at least "conditional freedom" should be considered. Signor Eugenio Peracchi, lawyer and former prison governor, who recently wrote a book on the subject, summed it up like this: "If life imprisonment cannot be abolished, the life prisoners should at least be given legal grounds to hope that one day they may be able to emerge from this sepulchre of the living."—China Mail Special.

Hungarian Bishops Meet

Paris, Jan. 23.

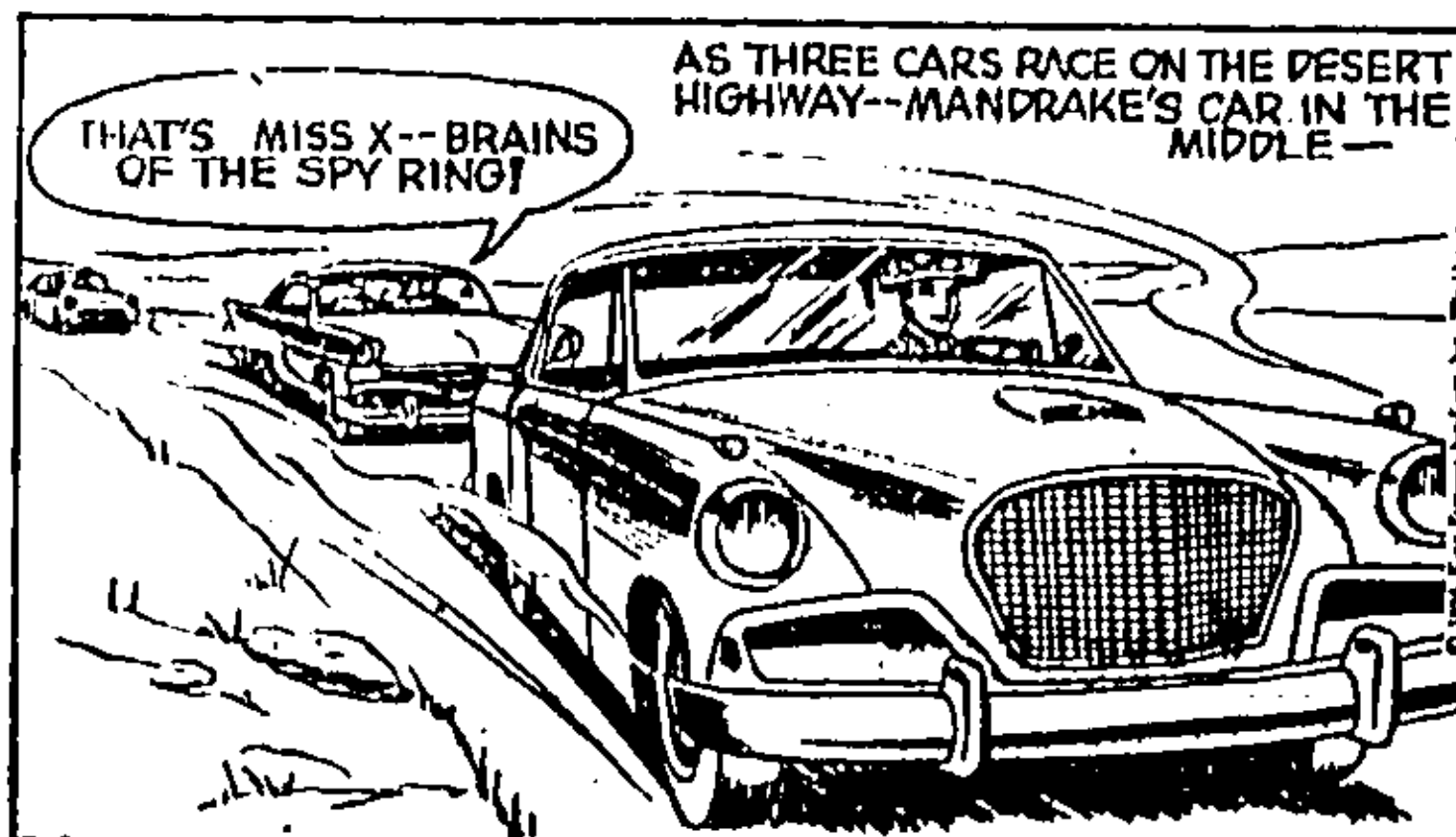
The Hungarian Episcopal Council today opened in Budapest its first conference since the Soviet military intervention in Hungary last November 4.

The meeting, reported by Budapest radio, was presided over by Bishop Joseph Groz, Bishop of Kalocsa. Bishop Groz, who was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment in June, 1951, was amnestied in May, 1956, and became President of the Hungarian Episcopal Council.

Budapest radio said the meeting of the bishops would last for two days, but did not indicate the purpose of the conference.—France-Press.

MANDRAKE: THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



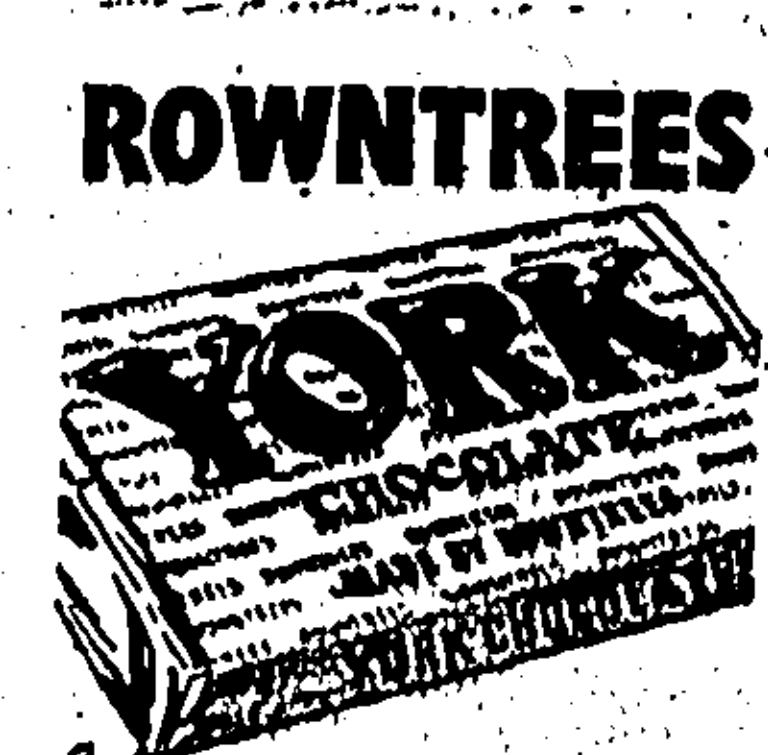
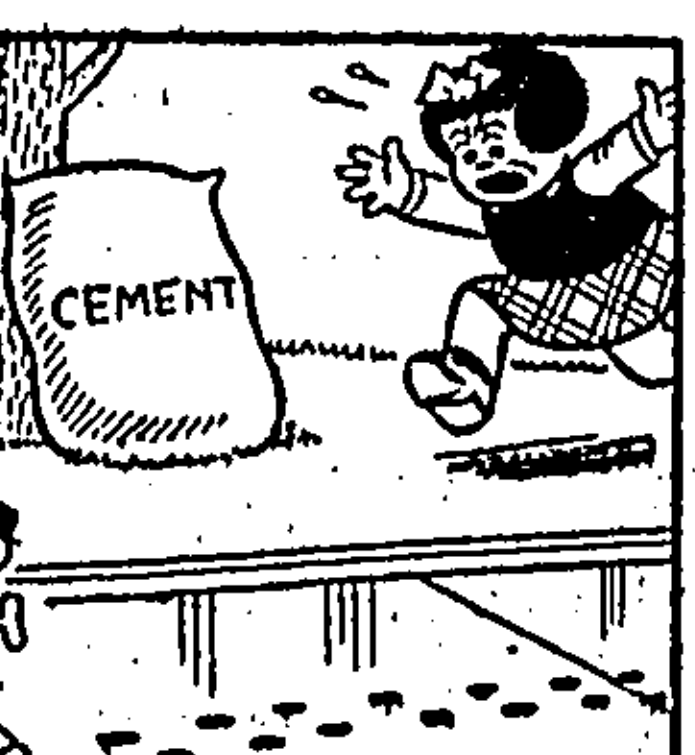
FERD'NAND

By Mik



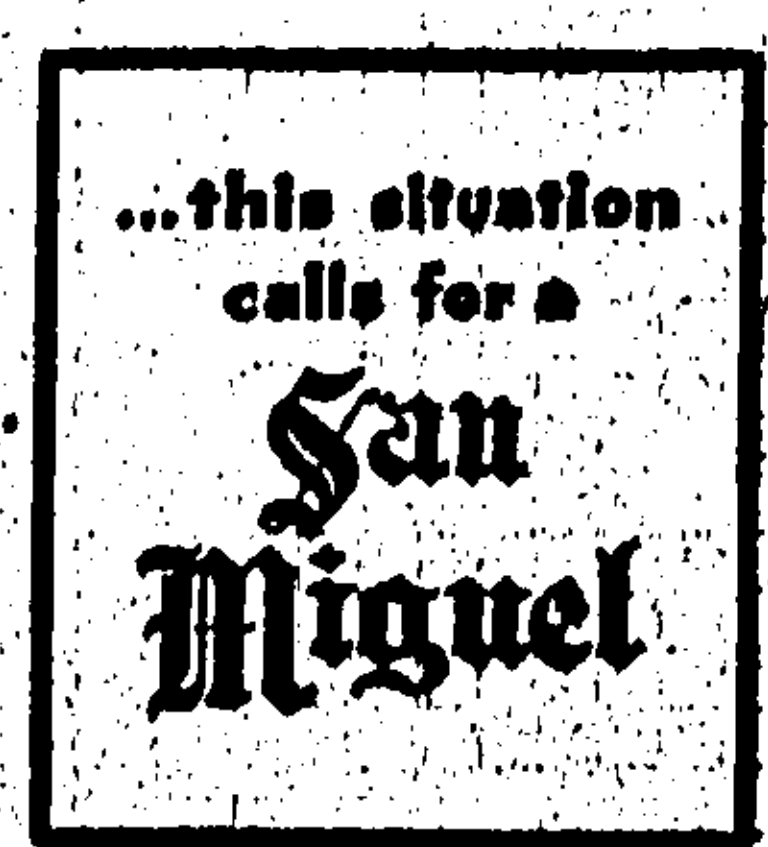
NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



right hand, and after revealing his identity took him to the Police Station.